

Emergency Response Operations Animal Services Office

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Emergency Operations Plan – City of Austin

- The Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) was developed to provide the general and conceptual framework for coordinated, multi-agency response
- The EOP covers all hazards and establishes the framework for how the City of Austin responds to disasters
- City of Austin utilizes the Incident Command System (ICS)

Animal Services Office – Basic Responsibilities

- ASO will provide for the care and sheltering of pets during emergency shelter operations
- Responds to domestic/wild animal situations posing a public threat
- During the recovery process, responds to situations where domestic animals are running loose, abandoned (or otherwise made homeless), or injured
- APO may respond to wild animal situations

Capital Area Shelter Hub Plan – CASHP

- When hurricanes strike the Texas coast, residents will generally flee inland.
- The State of Texas is divided into various “shelter hubs”
- The “hubs” are in metropolitan areas
- Regional plan with regional partnerships
- ASO works with other agencies on the setup and management of a pet shelters areas

CASHP – ASO duties

- All CASHP shelters are pet friendly
- Establishes and leads a multi-agency Pet Management System for companion animals at shelter
- ASO will provide support of staff from all partner agencies as requested
- ASO also utilizes volunteers to provide coverage of the pet shelter area as needed
- Evacuees with large animals will be directed to Travis County Expo Center
 - Travis County Emergency Management oversees the large animal component of the CASHP

CASHP – ASO duties

- Evacuees with household pets will be expected to bring pet food and appropriate pet carriers
- Animals, other than service animals, will not be allowed in the dormitory area of any shelter
- Establish a pet management plan for each shelter
- Information on each site was gathered as a part of the shelter facility survey
- Once open, pet operations will be coordinated by animal control personnel and operated by pet-support organizations

Mega Shelter – City of Austin

- Need for mega sheltering
- Fall under a single command
- Large structure where a significantly large number of evacuees can be sheltered
- Expanded amount and diversity of internal infrastructure
- Support services and recovery support
- Each mega-shelter will have its own internal operations plan

Mega Shelter – ASO

- Manage household pet registration
- Provide direction to pet shelter.
- Coordinate with Mass Care Services for visitation and care of animals by pet owners
- Pet shelter area will be co-located or within close proximity to the mega shelter
- ASO will have a representative staff the MS registration area

Questions?